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WKU Student Affairs

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COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

Western Kentucky University • Bowling Green, Kentucky

Student News, Faculty News, Alumni News, All News



Jesse Osborne/Herald

(Above) Western students walk by Downing University Center. (Below) Western has changed to a more pedestrian campus, moving parking and roadways to the perimeter and making the interior more attractive and well-lit.

Campus becomes more pedestrian-friendly

By AMBER COULTER
Herald reporter

In 2001, drivers could travel on a road between the directional dorms. The area is now covered with bricks and concrete.

Students living in Bates-Runner Hall could cross the street to get to the Downing University Center. Next year, the path will be green space.

And grass now fills the space in front of Grise Hall that used to be a parking lot.

Administrators have been working for 10 years to make the Hill more pedestrian-friendly and improve the look of campus, decrease the number of cars on the property and make foot travel safer.

The transformation will include moving parking to the edges of campus, closing roads and increasing the amount of green space on campus.

Western officials say the benefits of a new campus will be worth the expense.

The campus master plan, Western's growth plan for the next 20 years, was written by an independent architecture and planning company in 1990 and revised in 2003. It outlines the school's goals for aesthetic and safety improvements, construction projects, enrollment and other facets of Western life.

The view

One of the plan's goals is to increase green space at Western to encourage outdoor activity and interaction.

The master plan suggests enhancing the main pedestrian walkway, which goes from Pearce-Ford Tower to Cherry Hall, and widening it to at least 20 feet.

[In] attractive elements along the walkway should be replaced by small seating areas, court yards and other more attractive features, the master plan said.

"This walkway could become the place on campus where the entire university meets and where visitors in a single stroll can see the essence of Western Kentucky University," the master plan stated.

Western's aesthetic changes are among many occurring on campuses across the nation.

To improve campus beauty, University of Georgia administrators are converting a cen-

ter street on the school's south campus into a pedestrian mall similar to what Western administrators are planning, said Kevin Kurshy, assistant director for facilities planning.

Each converted-block costs about \$1 million, Kurshy said.

The green spaces have become the social centers of campus, he said.

"It really took no promotion at all," Kurshy said. "People started sitting on the benches and laying on the lawn and throwing a frisbee, and in no time it was all being used by the university community."

Parking

The master plan recommends that parking areas be moved to the edges of campus.

One parking lot and five streets have been closed for that purpose.

There probably won't be any more lots built in the interior of campus, said Jennifer

The Road to a Pedestrian Campus

1. Evaluate safety and aesthetic needs specific to the campus, such as the campus master plan.
2. Create a main pedestrian walkway across the campus, such as the walkway from Pearce-Ford Tower to Cherry Hall.
3. Gradually build parking lots on the edge of campus, such as the parking structures and the gravel lots.
4. Gradually close interior parking lots.
5. Gradually close non-essential streets through the interior of campus, such as Virginia Garrett Avenue and Regents Avenue.
6. Change surrounding roads to divert traffic around campus, such as the possible future closure of State Street.
7. Ensure adequate lighting for pedestrian safety.
8. Create green areas for campus beauty and student interaction.

SEE CAMPUS, PAGE 8A



Student robbed at knife-point; investigation ongoing

Armed robbery is second in four weeks

By ANDREW McNAMARA
Herald reporter

Stacy Sturgeon walked alone at night in the parking lot of Big Lots on Nashville Road on Sunday.

But after that night, the

Union Star freshman refuses to ever be alone when it's dark.

Sturgeon was robbed in the parking lot by a man with a knife. Campus police responded to the robbery because the strip mall is owned by Western.

This is the second robbery with a deadly weapon on Western property in the past four weeks.

Sturgeon said she was

walking in the parking lot at about 6:20 p.m. when a man in a ski mask grabbed her right arm and tried to take her purse.

Sturgeon said the man placed the blade of a knife on her arm and face and took her purse, wallet, gold chain, gold cross charm and bracelet, all worth \$635. Sturgeon did not suffer any serious injuries.

"I was basically in shock and didn't want to believe it," Sturgeon said.

On Nov. 17, Marcus W. Walker was robbed at gunpoint in the Pearce-Ford Tower lot when he was walking from his car at 9:30 p.m.

The last armed robbery before the incident in the PFT lot was six years ago, the Herald previously reported.

Mike Dowell, campus police captain of investigations, said both investigations are still ongoing and the police are following all leads.

If anyone has any information about any of these cases, they are asked to contact the police at (270) 745-2548.

Reach Andrew McNamara at news@wkuherald.com.

Students abusing ADHD meds

Abusers may use Adderall, Ritalin to help concentration

By KATIE BRANDENBURG
Herald reporter

Adderall caused dizziness, hunger, stomach aches and insomnia for Louisville freshman Nick Raidt.

Some of Raidt's friends in high school would ask to have some of his medication despite the side effects.

Many students like Raidt are being diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

But Raidt's classmates reflect the growing number of young people who are abusing ADHD treatments.

Some college students claim Adderall, Ritalin and other ADHD medications help them to concentrate longer, stay up later and absorb more material.

"Unfortunately, I think this may be fairly frequently abused," said Dr. Pat Blewett, a physician at Health Services. "Students do not feel that it is wrong to take someone else's medication, so frequently don't function if when asked."

Abuse of prescription drugs increased by 81 percent among those 18 years and older, according to a report by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University.

The number of people who abused stimulants, which include Adderall and Ritalin, increased by 170 percent from 1992 to 2000, the report stated.

Blewett said she has patients who say they took a pill their roommate gave them to help them study for tests.

Students also use Adderall or Ritalin to get high, Blewett said. It is taken in pill form, or crushed and snorted.

SEE STUDY, PAGE 7A

SGA approves less legislation this semester

10 pieces approved this fall; more student involvement sought

By ALEX FOSTANA
Herald reporter

Bikes, a career documentary and videos are some of the items the Student Government Association brought to Western this semester through pieces of legislation.

But the amount of legislation the group passed is less than in previous fall semesters.

SGA members passed 10 pieces of legislation this fall. Three were resolutions stating the group's opinion and seven were bills that involved spending money from SGA's \$100,000 budget.

Lack of student involvement, scheduling problems and fewer administrative problems may contribute to a decrease in legislation, according to some SGA members and administrators.

Some SGA members say the lack of legislation is more common in the fall when new members are adjusting to the group.

The most legislation passed in a fall semester happened in 1976 when there were four bills and 16 resolutions, according to SGA records at the Kentucky Museum. Some of the records were incomplete or missing.

There were only three bills and 10 resolutions passed in fall 1984, according to the records.

SEE SGA, PAGE 7A

INSIDE

Kwanzaa

Students, faculty members celebrate the holiday with readings, performances and a feast. Page 5A.

Going home

Three students from New Orleans universities are heading back to the damaged city. Page 6A.

Sports

Sun Belt offices move back to New Orleans. Page 12A.

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Any time this symbol appears next to a story in the Herald, go to www.wkuherald.com for more exclusive content, like photos or a multimedia show.

Weather watch

Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
35°-19°	31°-17°	41°-29°	41°-24°	44°-27°

2 DAY

By the numbers

1915 Year Lipstik was first produced in its modern form in Waterbury, Connecticut by Seovil company.

80 Percent of American women who regularly wear Lipstik.

source: www.lipstikcosmetics.com

Corrections

◆Due to a Herald error, the Sigma Kappa sorority was incorrectly identified in a story about the Toys for Tots toy drive on campus on page 7 of the Dec. 6 issue.

The Kappa Sigma fraternity is involved with the toy drive. The Herald regrets the error.

◆Due to a Herald error, facts were incorrect in a story on page 5 of the Dec. 6 issue.

Davis Law Kim pushed Litchfield freshman Ashley Stone and kicked her once. He attempted to smack and kick Cayceville freshman Misty Tones.

The Herald regrets the error.

◆Due to a Herald error, information was incorrect in five decade stories in the centennial section on pages 6A and 7A of the Nov. 17 issue. The date of Western's first day of classes was Jan. 22, 1907.

Western moved to its location on the Hill in 1911. Classes were held in old Potter College building after Western moved to the Hill.

The Student Army Training Corps was formed in 1918.

The old gymnasium was renovated to become Helm Library.

The score of the men's basketball game between Western and Villanova University was Western 89 and Villanova 92.

Western's logo was adopted in 1989. The Herald regrets the errors.

◆The College Heights Herald corrects all confirmed errors that are brought to reporters' or editors' attention. Please call 745-6011 or 745-5044 to report a correction, or e-mail us at herald@chherald.com.

a thousand words



Crime reports

Report

◆Tonya M. Mercer, Pearce-Ford Tower, reported on Dec. 2 her Motorola Razr cell phone stolen from the front desk in PFT. The value of the theft was \$340.

◆Jeremy C. Yucian, PFT, reported on Dec. 2 the ninth floor kitchen door and door-knob damaged. The value of the damage was \$300.

◆Christy L. Brewer, Rodes-Martin hall director,

reported on Dec. 2 doors on the third and seventh floor being vandalized. The value of the damage was \$25.

◆Michael C. Cooper, Barnes-Campbell Hall, reported on Dec. 6 the theft of his Sony

digital camera from his room. The theft was valued at \$350.

◆Christy L. Brewer, Rodes hall director, reported on Dec. 6 bulletin boards stolen from the seventh and ninth floor. The thefts were valued at \$400.

◆Laura L. Kitchens, Environmental Sciences and Technology building, reported on Dec. 6 her wallet and other items stolen. The theft was valued at \$77.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2B

For the hard to buy for this CHRISTmas

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Custom T-Shirts

Student Publications would like to congratulate the Seniors:

Justin Fowler
Jim Winn
Jessica Evangelist
Gavin Noffsinger

"The greatest thing in the world is not so much where we stand, in what direction we are moving."

— Oliver Wendell Holmes

FREE RENT FROM FIGARO'S

Hey students! Do you live at Campus Pointe, College Suites, The Gabies, The Registry, or Western Place? If you said yes, you can be entered into chance to win FREE RENT!!!

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W.K.A. Alumni Association is proud to announce our Hall of Fame Class of 2005. We are proud to have the following members of the W.K.A. Alumni Association. These individuals will be inducted into the W.K.A. Hall of Fame during the Official Kick-Off Ceremony on April 1st at the Mass Middle and Eastern High School.

Floyd Anders '05	Sherese Martin '05
Robert Ashby '06	Tarah Mathews '06
Crystal Benjamin '06	Travis Mattingly '05
Robert Black '07	Patrick McDougal '06
Willa Blesser '06	Deanne McDougal '05
Jared Bolton '06	Mark Michum '05
Larry Bratcher '06	Michael Mudd '05
Ashley Butler '06	Ricquita Perkins '05
Samantha Carter '07	Lindsay Pippin '05
Christa Chaudron '07	Kari Prather '06
Christina Collins '07	James Ramage '05
Jennifer Costa '06	Wendy Ratliff '07
Christine Constable '06	Unesh Ridings '06
Andrea Cummings '07	Frinda Rigby '05
Shirley Dalton '06	Sara Robertson '07
Marta Duffie '06	Timothy Rose '05
Candace Elsie '07	Heather Sharpsteen '06
Sara Florence '07	Michelle Shields '06
Bobbie Flowers '07	Abigail Smith '05
Laura Gower '06	Tiffany Smith '05
Leif Guenther '06	Elizabeth Stark '06
Hope Hawkins '06	Daniel Thomas '06
Christopher Hawkins '06	Patrick Story '05
Lee Humphrey '06	Mary Porter-Talbert '06
Jason James '06	Marilyn Vantrasse '06
Amy Jones '06	Mitchell Webster '07
David Kay '06	Danielle Wolf '05
Charles Koppert '06	Jennifer Wright '06
Lydia Kullman '06	Journie York '05

Student life

Activities to ease final exam anxiety

By Leah M. Caudle
Herald reporter

Homemade stress balls, coffee and pancakes will help students get rid of stress during finals week.

Some activities to ease the frustrations of finals week will be offered by different campus departments and associations this week and next week. These activities include games, free food, extended hours for study and moral support from peers.

Health Services is sponsoring "Knock Out Stress" at 11 a.m. tomorrow in the Downing University Center. This program will allow students to make their own stress balls from balloons, flour and water. Students can also play games

such as Battleship and Twister with other people and learn how to relieve the body of stress.

Health educator Andrea Dudas said students should try to eliminate stress during finals week because stress weakens the body. Dudas said students are more prone to illness during finals week.

Free stress kits will also be given to the students. Dudas said these kits will include peppermints, cough drops and pamphlets about stress relief.

She said the program will help students relax and interact with other students facing the same stress.

"Even if it's for 30 minutes, students can have fun," Dudas said.

The Baptist Student Union will have a pancake breakfast at 10:30 p.m. of Sunday so students can interact.

"Even if it's for 30 minutes, students can have fun."

—Andrea Dudas
Health educator

Campus Minister Tommy Johnson said students should be supported at such critical time as finals.

Johnson also said the BSU will be extending study hours.

The Student Government Association will host the "Java City Exam Jam" in Java City on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday night during exam week.

Cookies and hot chocolate will be a few of the free items students can enjoy.

Bemis Lawrence Hall is also getting involved in "lightening the finals load. Students have started a program called "Final Friends," where students pick a biography that was previously filled out by another student and leave him or her messages of notes in his or her mailbox.

Campbellville junior Courtney Abell, who is also a resident assistant, said residents get bogged down during finals and it's nice to receive uplifting messages.

"The residents really like receiving mail," Abell said.

Reach Leah M. Caudle at news@wkuherald.com.

Final Exam Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:35 a.m.	8:00 TR	11:10 TR	Study Day	8:30 MWTF	9:10 MWF
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 a.m.	10:30 MWF	11:30 MWF		8:30 TR	12:45 TR
1-2 p.m.	1:50 MWF	2:30 TR	Some ADOT 250-2011 CHM 250 FIN 350	9:00 MW	12:40 MWF
2:45-4:45 p.m.	4:00 Mon 4:00 MW	4:30 Tues 4:30 TH	4:00 Weds 4:30 MW	8:30 Thurs 8:00 TR	
5-6 p.m.	5:30 Mon 7:00 MW	5:00 Tues 6:30 Thurs	5:30 Weds 7:30 Weds	5:00 Thurs 9:30 Thurs	

Crime reports

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2A

Arrests

◆Kristofer A. Corbin, College Street, was arrested on Dec. 2 for public intoxication. He was released the same day.

from Warren County Jail for time served.

◆James Martum, Grandview Road, was arrested on Dec. 2 for driving under the influence on State Street. He was released the next day from Warren County

Jail on a \$750 bond.

◆David Boling, Hopkinsville, was arrested on Dec. 3 for driving under the influence and possession of alcohol by a minor. He is serving a four-day sentence at Warren County Jail.

◆Stefan Schmid, Bowling Green, was arrested on Dec. 3 for driving under the influence on University Boulevard. He was released the same day on a \$750 cash bond from Warren County Jail.

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2901 Scottsville Rd.

<p>5-5-5 DEAL!</p> <p>Medium 1-Topping Pizzas \$5 each - when you buy 3 or more</p> <p>Offer #145</p> <p>Additional Toppings only \$1.00 each per pizza. Small \$1.00 per pizza. Expires 12/10/05</p>	<p>7-7-7 DEAL!</p> <p>Large 1-Topping Pizzas \$7 each - when you buy 3 or more</p> <p>Offer #135</p> <p>Additional Toppings only \$1.00 each per pizza. Small \$1.00 per pizza. Expires 12/10/05</p>	<p>MEDIUM MEGA DEAL!</p> <p>1 Medium Pizza with up to 5 Toppings \$9.99</p> <p>Offer #126</p> <p>Use a Second for just \$4.99 more. Small \$1.00 per pizza. Expires 12/10/05</p>
<p>X-LARGE PIZZA</p> <p>Extra Large 1-Topping Pizza \$9.99 plus tax</p> <p>Offer #149</p> <p>Additional Toppings only \$1.00 each. Small \$1.00 per pizza. Expires 12/10/05</p>	<p>MEDIUM DOUBLES</p> <p>2 Medium 1-Topping Pizzas \$11.99 plus tax</p> <p>Offer #158</p> <p>Additional Toppings only \$1.00 each per pizza. Small \$1.00 per pizza. Expires 12/10/05</p>	<p>LARGE MEGA DEAL!</p> <p>Large Pizza with up to 5 Toppings \$11.99 plus tax</p> <p>Offer #122</p> <p>Use a Second for just \$4.99 more. Small \$1.00 per pizza. Expires 12/10/05</p>
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The Creed

"Congress shall make no law ...
abridging the freedom of speech,
or of the press ..."

— First Amendment, U.S. Constitution

OPINION

College Heights Herald • Western Kentucky University • Thursday, December 8, 2005 • Page 4A

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It's GIFT time...

It's about this time of the year that millions of people begin the frantic search for the perfect holiday gifts. They brave the cold, stand in the lines and deal with the crowds.

We're not worried. We have our gifts.

This is now for some of you, but our veteran readers already know what's coming next: holiday gifts. Some people have probably looked forward to this for an entire year. OK, that's highly unlikely, but we can always wish, right?

It's Herald tradition for the editorial board to reach deep into its red velvet bag and "hand out" gifts in the last paper of the fall semester.

Please don't feel slighted if we overlooked you. We're not quite as thorough as the "big guy" up north. For those of you who get gifts, don't be offended by them. The tradition is meant to be all in good holiday fun. One last thing: We want to wish Western students, faculty and staff a safe and happy holiday season.

Without further adieu, we present the 2005 Holiday Gifts:

An abacus for the University Benefits Committee. Some of history's most renowned mathematicians relied on this simple tool to help them solve complex equations. Surely you can find a way to use it to help keep track of \$660,000.

Measuring tape for the smokers. This might come in handy when you step outside for a nicotine fix. Twenty nine feet is too close to the door. You better make sure you're at that 30-foot mark.

A 30-foot stick for the non-smokers. You might need this if the smokers fail to utilize the measuring tape we just gave them. Just stand at the door and give them a light poke every time they come inside the 30-foot boundary with cigarettes in hand.

A cake for Western's 100th birthday party. Also, we plan to light 100 candles on top. On second thought, we better throw in a fire extinguisher, too. You never can be overly cautious when it comes to large fires.

The Heimlich maneuver for the Hiltop football team. We just want you guys to quit choking.

Rolls of quarters for the students. We thought it would be nice to help you out with all those new parking meters that have been installed around campus this semester. We figured we'd save on shipping and send the rolls with the Talisman since everyone gets a free one this year.

Tuberculosis masks for the Western population. Although everything is under control for the time being, you can't be too careful with TB.

A campus bonfire for anyone who is cold. We figured there are thousands of sheets of old Western letterhead collecting dust somewhere. All the new stuff has the centennial logo on it. Why waste? We'll throw the bonfire, but you have to bring your own marshmallows.

New campus maps for confused walkers and drivers. Those maps will be clearly marked with the intersection where College Heights Boulevard and College Heights Boulevard meet as well as with all the construction sites. We're just out to make navigation a little easier.

An alley or a path for Big Red. The poor creature had his very own street that ran prominently through campus for so many years, but it was taken from him during the summer. He needs to have something to make up for it.

This editorial represents the majority view of the Herald's eight-member board of student editors.

These are the Herald's views on the good, the bad and the slightly unattractive.

TOPS & Bottoms



Boo to the increased acts of violence we've seen around campus in the last two weeks. We know it's a stressful time of year, but control yourselves. A nice long break is coming soon!



Hooray for today being the last day of regular classes. We're fans of the new study day. Good plan. Also, we're thankful for an extra day to sleep in this week.



Kudos to all the students who enrolled in the winter term. At first we wondered if it was worth the effort, but now it looks like it will be successful. There are more students enrolled in J-term than in the last May term.



It's sad that this is the last Herald of the fall semester. Don't worry. We'll be back and ready to go with fresh stories next semester. January will be here before you know it.



The Grades that Stole Christmas

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Herald is revenue independent from Western; staff screens all ads

The Herald's leadership has been criticized recently for publishing advertisements for a business which a Western alumna and undoubtedly others don't morally agree with.

An ad for the adult bookstore in Horse Cave has been published in the Herald for about two years.

Because of the concerns, we feel this is the appropriate time to tell readers about our advertising policies and explain the process of generating revenue.

The university doesn't provide a budget for the Herald. The university doesn't pay for printing, equipment, salaries and travel expenses. Herald advertising revenue does. In fact, money from advertising is the sole funding for all operational costs. And in recent years the Herald has paid an assessment that could be considered rent for space in the Garrett Center.

Beyond funding, university ties exist in that Western students create a product that provides students, faculty and staff information they need while providing Herald staff members with professional experience.

Although the cost of printing and distributing 20,000 copies of the paper free each week is considerable, the Herald does not simply accept advertising for the sake of money. Advertisers are always investigated fully; the Herald does not knowingly publish ads for businesses involved in illegal activities.

To promote alcohol awareness on campus, the Herald will not publish advertising that encourages irresponsible

drinking or the illegal use of alcoholic beverages, i.e. "All-you-can-drink" ads. In addition, the Herald has the right to refuse any ad deemed outrightly offensive or discriminatory.

The Herald does not have the right to refuse advertisements from legitimate businesses whose ads are not outrightly offensive.

Advertisers buy space in the Herald to promote their businesses, services or causes. If we choose to draw the line and prohibit the adult bookstore from publishing ads because the business is offensive to some, we would also have to draw the same line for Christian bookstores.

Some people don't agree with the items on the shelves of the adult bookstore; others may not agree with the ideas promoted by Christian, Jewish or Islamic bookstores.

The existence of any news organization rests on the First Amendment and the freedom of the press. Just as reporters rely on this fundamental right to publish stories each day, advertisers rely on it to ensure that they can promote their businesses.

Readers who don't agree with the bookstore's message shouldn't shop there and should look beyond the ad. The Herald, after 81 years, continues to be a respected and credible source of news for Western students, faculty and alumni.

Shawntay Hopkins, editor-in-chief
Katie Hollenkamp, advertising manager

COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

Shawntay Hopkins* editor-in-chief	Stephanie Toome assistant features editor	Katie Hollenkamp ad manager
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*Denotes Editorial Board members

The Herald publishes Tuesdays and Thursdays

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STUDENT OPINION POLICY

The Herald encourages readers to write letters and commentaries on topics of public interest. Here are a few guidelines:

1. Letters should not exceed 250 words, and commentaries should be 700-800 words.
2. Originality counts. There is no grade at stake here. Please don't submit plagiarized work.
3. For verification, letters and commentaries must include your name, phone number, hometown and identification or title. YOUR WORK WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION IF YOU REFUSE TO PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION.
4. If you choose to email your letter or commentary, please do not send it as an email attachment. We use Microsoft computers.
5. Letters may not be used in any other format or for any other purpose.
6. The Herald reserves the right to edit letters for style, grammar, length and clarity. The Herald DOES NOT PRINT LIBELOUS LETTERS OR COMMENTARIES.

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Campus life

Program teaches Kwanzaa to students

BY COREY PAUL
Herald reporter

Nashville sophomore Mark Clay did not know what Kwanzaa was before Tuesday night.

Clay and about 80 other students learned about the holiday at Western's annual Kwanzaa celebration Tuesday on the fourth floor of the Downing University Center.

"I just didn't come for extra credit. I came for myself," Clay said, who plans on celebrating the holiday in the future.

Saundra Ardrey, director of African-American studies, showed students the traditional symbols of Kwanzaa and shared some of her own family's traditions.

Ardrey also called on members of the audience to read definitions of the seven principles of Kwanzaa.

Ardrey followed each reading with an explanation.

Clay volunteered to read the principle of Nia, or purpose. He didn't understand the principle at first, but later grasped the meaning, he said.

"It's crazy how languages are so different when really they mean the same thing," Clay said.

The only other time Clay had learned about Kwanzaa was in school, but that was not as in-depth as Western's celebration, he said.



Saundra Ardrey, head of the Political Science department, lead the annual Kwanzaa celebration. "African American studies is my culture, my heritage," she said.

The celebration also featured two performances and a feast.

The Amazing Tones of Joy, a gospel group at Western, performed two selections at the beginning and end of the ceremony.

Louisville senior LaShonda Sims, coordinator of the event, read "Still I Rise," a poem by Maya Angelou. Ardrey suggested the poem to Sims because of

its focus on black people rising over struggle, which is one of the themes of Kwanzaa, Sims said.

Nashville senior Nadia Garrett sang also for the choir. This was her fourth year performing at the Kwanzaa celebration.

"A lot of African Americans don't really know what represents it until they come here,"

she said.

Each year Western's celebration gets bigger as upperclassmen encourage underclassmen to come, Garrett said, who invited five people.

Sims said she was surprised by the number of people that attended the event.

Reach Corey Paul
at news@wkuherald.com.

Campus life

Johnson elected new speaker of the senate

BY ALEX FONTANA
Herald reporter

Marion sophomore Jeanne Johnson had a successful night at the last Student Government Association meeting of the semester.

Johnson was elected the speaker of the senate at SGA's meeting on Tuesday. She replaced Smiths Grove senior Jael Conrad.

Johnson said she plans to have forums for senators to teach them parliamentary procedure and how to correctly write legislation.

"She said she wants to prove that SGA isn't boring."

"I think this is an opening for tomorrow's leaders to get experience today," Johnson said.

The speaker position has changed every semester since it was created in fall 2004, even though it was written as a year-long position.

Conrad is resigning because of class conflicts in the spring.

Jackson senior Josh Collins, previous speaker and former SGA presidential candidate, was nominated for the speaker position along with Johnson at the Nov. 29 meeting. Bardonia junior Josh McCubbin also was nominated for the position at Tuesday's meeting.

Bowling Green senior Rob Watkins, the first speaker of the

senate, created the position when he rewrote the SGA constitution that was ratified in 2004.

Collins said he is content with the results, but it was a lost opportunity for him to serve SGA.

"I'm still going to be as loud as I have been," he said.

Johnson is also the chair of the campus improvements committee, which is giving four mountain bikes and accessories to campus police after approval from SGA at the meeting.

Campus Police Capt. Mike Wallace said the bikes will greatly help the police enhance safety.

"We save minutes in responding to the scene of the problem," he said.

The department only has three working bikes, and the newest one is about five years old, Wallace said.

Ryan Dillon, an SGA member and Police Explorer, said the bikes will help the Explorers solve problems such as finding people drinking and breaking into cars on the Hill.

Dillon, a junior from Hendersonville, Tenn., said a lot of explorers travel on foot, and the bikes will help them a lot.

Reach Alex Fontana
at news@wkuherald.com.

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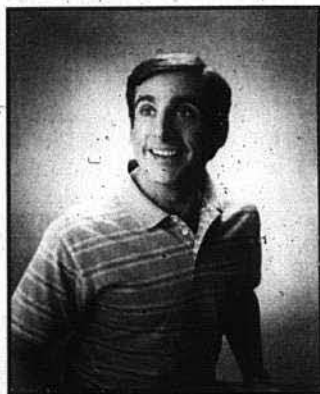
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Campus life

Katrina victims to return home

BY KELLY RICHARDSON
Herald reporter

It's been only a few months since Hurricane Katrina caused schools in New Orleans to close, forcing students to complete the fall semester elsewhere.

Now those students will get to go home.

Displaced students from New Orleans who transferred to Western will return to Louisiana in January as classes reopen next semester.

Two undergraduate students and a graduate student came to Western after the hurricane. One undergraduate student will be headed back to Tulane University, and the other will be going to Loyola University, Director of Admissions Dean Kahler said.

There are some graduate students who will be leaving the Louisiana and Texas areas to come to Western in the spring, said Lisa Merrill, the assistant to the Graduate Studies Dean.

Padauch graduate student

Audrey Ligon will be returning to Loyola for the spring semester. Ligon graduated from Western in 2004 and was planning on attending Loyola this fall. He had only lived in New Orleans for four days before he flew to Louisville the Friday before the hurricane for a wedding.

New Orleans officials were discussing a mandatory evacuation of the city on Saturday, and by Sunday, they had declared one.

Hurricane Katrina hit land the next day.

"It was really scary because I didn't know if the neighborhood had been hit or if the school had been hit," he said.

Without a school, Ligon began searching online to find schools where he was taking in evacuee stu-

dents. It was during this search that he thought of going back to Western, he said.

Ligon wants to get his master's degree in musical performance, a program not offered by Western. So he enrolled in the musical education program.

Ligon took electives that overlap between the two degrees, and he said at the beginning of the semester he thought the credits will transfer.

Loyola University also will be opening next semester on Jan. 9. Nearly 80 percent of their undergraduate students will be returning with 82 percent of the school's law students, said Kristine LeLong, the director of public affairs and external relations.

The school previously had

about 5,500 students.

Classes at Tulane University will start on Jan. 17, said Mike Strecker, the director of public relations at Tulane. The date has been set for about three months.

Recovery of the city was important in Tulane's opening, he said. The city had more damage than the school itself.

Tulane had about 13,000 students before the hurricane, and 86 percent of the students have re-registered, he said.

The University of New Orleans opened on Oct. 10, said Norma Grace, the vice chancellor for technology and economic development at UNO.

They have about 7,000 students enrolled this semester and are expecting about 12,000 students in the spring, Grace said. UNO had 17,300 students before the hurricane.

Reach Kelly Richardson at news@wkuherald.com

Campus life

Award-winning journalist to visit

BY ALEX WIMBATT
Herald reporter

The Pulitzer Prize is the most distinguished award in journalism and the list of winners is very exclusive.

One of the winners will visit Western this week.

Leonard Pitts, a Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist for the Miami Herald, will speak at 7 p.m. today in the Mass Media and Technology Hall auditorium. There will be a brief question and answer session after the speech.

Pitts will discuss the media coverage of Sept. 11 in comparison to recent media coverage of Hurricane Katrina.

Pitts won the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for best commentary. According to www.pulitzer.org, Pitts was awarded "for his fresh

vibrant columns that spoke with both passion and compassion to ordinary people on often divisive issues."

He was also a finalist for the 1992 Pulitzer Prize.

Pitts has written professionally since 1976 when he was an 18-year-old freelance writer for SOUL, a national black entertainment tabloid.

He joined the Miami Herald in 1991 where he wrote as a pop music critic. He became a columnist in 1994.

Moore Washington, freedom editor at the Washington Post, said she was excited about the columnist's visit to campus.

"I think it's awesome that a Pulitzer Prize winner is coming to our school," Krajewski said.

Pam Johnson, director of the School of Journalism and Broadcasting, said she heard Pitts speak before and was very impressed with him.

Johnson said the committee decided to ask Pitts to speak because he is a very outspoken person and a critical thinker.

"We wanted to make sure we had a high-caliber speaker," Johnson said.

Along with students, faculty have expressed their anticipation of Pitts.

JoAnn Albers, an optional retiree in the journalism department, said she is looking forward to Pitts' visit.

"Winning a Pulitzer Prize is not a shabby thing," Albers said.


Pitts also has received other prestigious awards from several well-known organizations.

He has been recognized by the National Association of Black Journalists, the Society of Professional Journalists, the American Society of Newspaper Editors and the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

"A public dessert and coffee reception will follow the event in the photography gallery of Mass Media and Technology Hall."

Reach Alex Wimbatt at news@wkuherald.com

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SGA: More students needed, spring legislation may increase

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

SGA President Katie Dawson said the quality of SGA's legislation is more important than the number of pieces passed.

"You don't need mass quantities of legislation to show that you're engaging students," Dawson said.

Some of this semester's legislation included more than \$10,000 for bikes and equipment for the campus police department, money to show a cancer documentary on the side of the academic complex and money to raffle off three iPod nanos.

The group of about 30 members also gave \$20,500 to more than 80 student organizations at Western.

Dawson said the fall semester is usually a warm-up period for the spring because there is new leadership and new members are hesitant to get involved. Bowling Green senior Rob Watkins, a former SGA speaker of the senate, said SGA doesn't discuss issues with students, which can lead to low participation and less legislation.

He also said there should be more discussion with students before a bill or resolution is approved by SGA.

"Legislation should spend weeks in committee and should go to the senate floor looking pristine with well-developed, well-researched and well-thought out ideas and intentions," said Watkins, who left SGA because of personal reasons.

Major Stevenson, the SGA executive vice president, said legislation should spend a lot of time in committee. Too much time in committee, however, can lead to legislation that is different than what it originally was.

Stevenson said SGA is good at communicating with students, but the group could improve.

Students are allowed to attend SGA meetings and present their own legislation, but that hasn't happened this semester.

He said some students may not know how to write legislation. Students could contact SGA members instead of writing legislation themselves, although it is allowed for students to do that.

He said most senators don't go out and talk to students when an issue comes up.

"It should be a two-way street," Stevenson said. "We have to foster a way of guiding them so they know what they're doing."

Some students don't get involved with legislation because of other involvements

and lack of publicity. Nashville, Tenn. Wendy Falconberry said she "usually doesn't know when SGA makes legislation."

"The only time I hear about anything from SGA is when I read it in the paper," she said.

Falconberry said students may have low participation in creating legislation because of other obligations.

"We are college students," she said. "We have classes. We have jobs. We have other organizations."

Herndon junior Jonathan Roy, an SGA member, said student communication with SGA is an ongoing issue.

"I'm not sure it will ever be perfect, especially with the amount of students that attend Western," Roy said.

SGA has a history of passing legislation that affects Western's students and faculty. SGA was started in 1966 under the name Associated Student Government.

ASG began after encouragement from the editors of the College Heights Herald and Talisman yearbook, according to university archives.

In October 1969, ASG voted 18-1 in favor of a resolution calling for the end of the Vietnam War. Western's Vietnam moratorium committee gathered 1,500 student signatures and called for a local moratorium at the same time as the national one on Oct. 15.

Western's student government also has written legislation relating to academics.

ASG offered 16 courses with no registration, no cost and no credit in 1973. The classes included philosophy, creative writing, bicycle repair and quilting.

Each one of students and student governments have had an effect on Western, said Howard Bailey, associate vice president for student affairs and development.

He said there may be less outstanding legislation from SGA because the administration is making many changes in its own.

"I think you can solicit student interests and make sure that you've got your hand on the pulse of what the students are concerned about," Bailey said.

President Gary Rasmussen said SGA's focus has shifted from student-oriented issues to overall education during his time as a stu-

dent and administrator at Western. SGA's fewer number of bills could mean there are fewer issues facing the organization, he said.

Other student governments are facing similar problems with legislation.

Jason Marion, SGA president of Morehead State University, added that the fall semester produces less legislation than the spring semester.

The learning curve and the presence of new senators means there is less legislation to be passed, Marion said.

As of Dec. 1, Morehead State's 41-member SGA had passed two resolutions and more than 15 proposals. Marion defined resolutions as statements made by the legislature and proposals as acts directly under SGA's power.

Students can get involved by urging a senator to pass a piece of legislation, Marion said. Student representation is an important part of legislation at Appalachian State University, said Jud Watkins, president of Appalachian State's 76-member SGA.

Appalachian State is a benchmark university for Western. The senate passed four pieces of legislation this fall, Jud Watkins said.

But academic issues aren't usually solved with legislation, he said. SGA officers contact administrators and professors to solve academic issues.

He said talking to administrators can be faster than writing formal legislation.

One student government expert said effective legislation is more than talking to administrators and passing bills.

SGAs want to find out what students want them to do, said Butch Oxendine, director of the American Student Government Association, an organization that helps student governments across the country. Members need to do surveys that are scientifically derived.

Student government should focus on issues that students think are important, Oxendine said.

"Legislation doesn't mean that they're effective," he said. "They need to do things that matter."

Reach Alex Fontana at news@wkuherald.com.

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STUDY: Some abuse Adderall

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

"Some people get a little buzz from the medication and that makes it more likely to be abused," Blewett said. "Others just like the way it makes them feel."

Raidt said he never shared his medicine when he was approached several times by fellow students. He said he doesn't understand why anyone who did not need Adderall would take it.

Emily Averitt, a master's-level clinical counselor at the Counseling and Testing Center, said she has had students talk with her about abusing ADHD medications, but the center doesn't document the reason each student comes in for help.

Counselors help students work on the problems behind their addiction, Averitt said.

ADHD medications are stimulants that make children with the disorder more calm and focused, said Julie Lisch, a pharmacist at Hines Pharmacy in Bowling Green.

The stimulants used in Adderall are amphetamines, a chemical similar to the one which causes the high derived from methamphetamines, Lisch said.

Adderall is a schedule 2 narcotic and a pharmacist must have a written doctor's prescription to fill it, Lisch said. The prescription can't be given to, and no more than, one month's worth of pills can be dispensed at a time.

Blewett said ADHD medications are extremely dangerous

and potentially addictive. They can elevate heart rate and blood pressure and provoke anxiety. The medications can also be dangerous when used with decongestants and herbal medications.

People with a previous history of drug or alcohol abuse or a family history of substance dependence are at a higher risk for addiction, Blewett said.

The major side effects of Adderall include insomnia and loss of appetite when used properly, according to Shire US Inc., the company that distributes and markets the medication.

Warnings state that when Adderall is abused, side effects include restlessness, hallucinations, depression, arrhythmias, high blood pressure and circulatory collapse. Psychosis similar to schizophrenia can occur in the most severe cases of abuse.

Doctors at Health Services require students to have a full evaluation with a psychological screening and routine follow-ups before the use of ADHD medications.

These requirements would make it difficult for a student without ADHD to fake the disorder in order to get a prescription, Blewett said.

Associate Psychology Professor Rick Grieve, said that most doctors do not have these requirements.

"If you know the right key phrases to tell a physician you can get any medication that you want," said Grieve, who helps conduct evaluations to diagnose students who think they may have ADHD.

Symptoms of ADHD include difficulty concentrating and following instructions, excessive talking, appearing not to listen, interrupting others and restlessness.

Though many people benefit from medication, others are able to control their condition through behavior modification and better study habits, Blewett said.

Raidt said that he was on Adderall and other ADHD medications for about a year before he decided to tell his mother that he didn't want to take medicine anymore.

"I told her I'd do better without it, and I said the same thing to my doctor," Raidt said.

Reach Katie Brandenburg at news@wkuherald.com.

If Adderall is abused, warnings state that side effects could include:

- Insomnia
- Hallucinations
- Depression
- Arrhythmias
- High blood pressure
- Circulatory collapse
- Psychosis similar to schizophrenia

Military

Local soldiers serve in Iraq

BY NINA BOSKEN
Herald reporter

Americans across the country and from all walks of life have been risking their lives in the war in Iraq. Several people from the Bowling Green community have served or are going to serve in Iraq.

Col. David Patterson is a Western alumna. He is currently stationed in Saddam Hussein's palace and works in the policy division at the United States embassy. Most of his duties entail office work and writing documents and briefing generals.

Elections for an Iraqi democratic government will be held on December 15th, Patterson said.

Bowling Green resident Gary Hutchinson has returned from serving in Iraq.

Hutchinson worked 12 hours a day in Iraq. His duties included keeping security, escorting troops and searching for raids.

"I've found the honor to serve my country, the most rewarding," Hutchinson said. "I've been in the infantry for 10 years, and I've always been ready. When America calls, I go."

Another aspect of enlisting to fight overseas is the effect it has on the family. Hutchinson said,

"My family has had to go through a lot. It's tougher on them since they are back here by themselves," Hutchinson

said. "Families need a lot of support. My normal duties fall onto my spouse, and it makes it stressful for her since she's not used to doing that."

"According to Hutchinson, the living conditions are uncomfortable. They have dust storms regularly, so it's hard to keep things clean. Hutchinson really having to sleep with a towel over his head to keep the dust away."

Fear is one of the most common emotions felt while fighting in a war on a daily basis, Hutchinson said.

"We're always on our toes for any terrorism," Hutchinson said. "We always have to be aware and on the lookout for anything out of the ordinary, always have to keep a watchful eye. We're fearful of anything over there. It's a foreign country, and anything could happen."

Carrollton freshman Lera Jones is preparing to serve in Iraq next semester. She will drive a recovery vehicle and help save people wounded in action. She will be serving for 12 to 18 months.

"Growing up, I always respected military people," Jones said. "They serve our country and are there to help. I'm most scared to be away from my family for so long. If I die, I die for my country."

Reach Nina Bosken at nbs@wsherald.com.

CAMPUS: Plan calls for more safety

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8A

Togas, director of parking and transportation improvement.

Many drivers get upset that they can't park near their classes, said Gene Tice, vice president of student affairs and campus services. But such convenience is a reasonable sacrifice for campus safety.

"We're spoiled, and we all want to use our own car and the convenience of the car," he said.

Glasgow senior Tracy Stinson said she enjoys the loss of the drive lot, which is located outside the building where she spends much of her time.

But Stinson said parking has gotten easier for her during her four years of commuting to multi-campus.

The upcoming addition of about 500 parking spaces at South Campus and 150 spaces on University Boulevard are among efforts to move parking to the perimeter of campus, Ault said.

Some new lots will have to be built off campus because enrollment is growing too quickly for the amount of land available for expansion, President Gary Randall said.

Other pedestrian campuses use off campus lots to control parking and traffic.

University of Georgia administrators designate parking pass holders for certain lots in which they must park to discourage traffic through the campus interior, said Diana Hale, parking manager for the University of Georgia.

"Every major university is moving toward a pedestrian-friendly campus," she said. "I support the philosophy they have, but I have to come up with a new place to put parking spaces every time they want to build a new academic building."

Safety

A goal of the pedestrian

campus is to make walking on the Hill safer.

Administrators' main goal is to deter traffic on campus to improve pedestrian safety, Randall said.

"Vehicles are important to people, but they can't compete with the people trying to move about the campus," he said.

Anwar Kamekar, a graduate student from Mumbai, India, said traffic around Western's campus is safe and not very congested. He walks to campus every day from his Chestnut Street home.

Contractors need to install better lighting to make walking safer, said John Osborne, vice president of student affairs and campus services. The project will cost at least \$60,000 each year until it is completed. The completion date hasn't been set.

The master plan identified the intersections at College Heights Boulevard and State Street and at College Heights Boulevard and College Street as particularly dangerous.

Western officials have attempted to make conditions safer on the Hill.

To make crossing streets safer for pedestrians, medians were placed along College Heights Boulevard and the speed limit was reduced from 25 mph to 15 mph, Osborne said.

Western administrators eliminated three parallel parking spots on Hilltop Drive to increase driver visibility, making the area safer for pedestrians, said Togas.

Administrators will probably put a traffic sign at the intersection of Chestnut Street and Regents Avenue to make crossing safer, Osborne said.

Contractors may use bricks to pave the part of College Heights Boulevard in front of the Downing University Center to make drivers slow down, he said.

Administrators also requested that city officials eliminate parking along State Street and

15th Street to increase visibility.

"Students should be able to walk without having to worry about traffic," Togas said.

Street closings

Regulating roadways also help reduce traffic congestion on campus.

The campus master plan advises administrators to design roadways surrounding Western to allow access to campus but discourage non-university related vehicles from entering.

This plan includes eliminating many streets running through the middle of campus and closing some roadways surrounding the Hill.

Virginia Current Drive has been removed, and the street that runs between the colonnades and Garrett Conference Center will probably be eliminated eventually, Tice said.

The master plan also suggests closing Center Street.

There are no plans for completely diverting traffic to the outer edges of campus, Togas said.

Even a pedestrian campus must have vehicular traffic capabilities to accommodate service and emergency vehicles, Ault said.

"There's kind of a balancing act you have to go through," he said.

The University of Memphis had some problems allowing delivery trucks on campus because of the pedestrian-friendly environment.

Maintenance crews must travel in smaller vehicles, said Curt Guenther, director of communication services at the University of Memphis.

Other transportation methods

More university-provided transportation is another goal in developing Western's pedestrian campus.

The master plan suggests expanding the number of shuttles used, the frequency of shuttle routes, the number of stops

and the hours of operation to encourage rider participation and mass transit.

University of Georgia administrators have worked to acclimate students to leaving their cars off campus for the past three years, Hale said.

"We want to promote a student network on campus so they don't just drive in and leave," Hale said.

The University of Georgia bus system has grown since most parking has moved to the edge of campus, said Jeremy Skater, night dispatcher for the University of Georgia.

The expansion of Western's shuttle system should promote the overall effectiveness of having a pedestrian campus, Togas said.

Cost

Administrators do not know how much the conversion to a pedestrian campus will cost, Ault said. They're taking the project one step at a time.

Converting a campus has become a multi-million dollar venture for some universities.

It has cost the University of Memphis about \$10 million to change the campus to a pedestrian-friendly environment, Guenther said.

At the University of Georgia, most funding for parking lot projects comes from the parking and transportation department's budget. Parking permit sales primarily fund the budget, Hale said.

Department employees were charged for temporary parking to offset the loss, she said.

Despite costs, Ault said the safety benefits and natural beauty on the Hill are major reasons for promoting a pedestrian campus.

"We want to keep some green space in the center of campus instead of turning it into a concrete jungle," he said.

Reach Amber Cudde at acudde@wsherald.com.



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Swimming and diving

'Indian River Boys' no longer just faces

BY DAVID HARTEN
Herald reporter

After two successful seasons at Indian River (Fla.) Community College, Western swimmers Graham Bailey and John Bishop were looking for a new school to further their swimming careers.

Fortunately, they both have been able to enjoy and endure the experience of a new school together.

Bailey and Bishop have developed into two of Western's top swimmers. Bailey specializes in freestyle events while Bishop prefers breaststroke.

"We met our freshman year, swam our two years at Indian River and ended up coming on a recruiting trip here," Bishop said. "We just decided that if all three of us decided to come here, we'll do it."

The third Indian River transfer, Richie Chatman, left the team after last season.

At Indian River, Bailey, a Lawrenceville, Ga., senior, was a two-time junior college All-American. Bishop, an Oviedo, Fla., senior, won two consecutive junior college national championships in the 200 breaststroke.

In his first season as a Hilltopper swimmer, Bishop swam the ninth-Tastest 200-meter breaststroke in Western history (2:06.04) and finished seventh in the event at the Sun Belt Championships.

Bailey swam the fastest Hilltopper 200 freestyle of the season with a time of 1:40.52. He also helped Western place second in the 400 and 800 freestyle relays at the conference championship meet. Individually,

Bailey finished third in the 200 freestyle and fourth in the 500 freestyle.

"They're both great competitors," assistant coach Bill Powell said. "They both love the team. They both adjusted as well as any junior college kid we've ever had here."

Bailey said it's nice having Bishop as a teammate at Western.

"It helped a lot when you come somewhere new where everyone is established as teammates," he said. "And having him there with me during the rough times, it was good to be able to turn to somebody that I knew and had been with me through my first



Graham Bailey John Bishop

years of college."

The team has also embraced both Bailey and Bishop as teammates and friends.

"It's kinda funny, for our first two months, all we were referred to as was 'The Indian River Boys,'" Bailey said.

"We were never called by our names."

Before the season, coach Bruce Marchionda named Bishop as one of the teams tri-captains.

"Graham and John are two of our best leaders," Marchionda said. "And also, they're coming in from a very good junior college program, Indian River Community College. They came in last year and posted lifetime bests in

all of their events. And they're two people that we're gonna really depend upon in the conference championship."

Both swimmers have contributed this season, too.

Bishop scored 34 points and Bailey 24 points in the Georgia Tech Invitational on Nov. 18-20.

In dual meets, Bailey finished second in the 200 freestyle in events at Butler and Cincinnati while Bishop finished fourth in the 200 breaststroke against the Bearcats.

Bishop said it will be important for himself and Bailey to perform well in order for the Hilltoppers to repeat as Sun Belt Conference champions.

"It'll be tough, but I think we'll be able to handle it," he said.

Reach David Harten
at sports@wkherald.com.

Homeland Security

Former cop protects homeland

BY ANDREW
McNAMARA
Herald reporter

A former Western employee's career took her to Frankfurt, but her heart is still in Bowling Green.

Mari Harris was appointed deputy director for Operations and Prevention for the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security last month after almost 30 years of working for the campus and city police.

Harris said she had to talk to her family and see what they thought about the opportunity before she could take the job. "My family is so important to me, and they have supported me the whole time," Harris said. She is a Western alumna.

who worked as a campus police officer and professor from 1978 to 1980.

Harris said working at Western gave her a different perspective because she taught and enforced the law.

Harris was hired as a Bowling Green Police Officer in 1980, worked with the department for 25 years and was promoted to Deputy Chief of the Field Operations Unit.

As deputy chief of Homeland Security, one of her first responsibilities will be to organize different aspects of public safety, such as fire departments and local police agencies, to improve communication statewide, said Jason Keller, chief public affairs officer for the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security.

Harris will also be in charge of bringing together all the statistics the different agencies have into workable information that could be used to prevent crime more efficiently, Keller said.

Campus Police Capt. Mike Wallace said Harris was an excellent choice for the position because she is very organized, has great communication skills and exemplifies what it means to be a professional.

"Mari was a first rate individual and one of the most competent coworkers I have ever known," Wallace said.

Reach Andrew McNamara
at news@wkherald.com

OFFICES: Wilma damages FIU

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12A

Attempts to reach New Orleans Athletic Director James Miller failed, but Florida International Athletic Director Rick Mello said the Sun Belt Conference had an excellent job of handling the situation.

"Knowing Waters the way I do, I know he didn't have a choice but to keep the conference going," Mello said. "I thought Wright did a tremendous job. It comes through resolve."

Florida International suffered about \$800,000 in damage from Hurricane Wilma hit on Oct. 24. Florida International suffered even more damage.

Roofs were ripped off several buildings and debris was scattered across campus. The storm forced the postponement of Florida International's Homecoming football game against Middle Tennessee State scheduled for Oct. 29. FIU beat the Blue Raiders, 35-31 on Dec. 3.

The school's total damage from the storm is about \$250,000, Mello said.

Western pitched in to help out the Sun Belt by hosting the cross-country championships on Oct. 29. The original site for the championships was scheduled to be at Florida International.

"It gave the athletes a positive championship experience," Western Athletic Director Wood Selig said. "I think we have a very resilient group that worked hard to make the best of a bad situation."

Sun Belt forms Hurricane Committee

In wake of the problems caused by the recent hurricane's hitting schools in the Sun Belt Conference, a committee has been formed. The committee is to develop a contingency plan in the event of future emergencies.

The panel consists of athletic directors, conference administrators and outside authorities to develop a documented plan in the event of similar events happening, Mello said. The plan would lay out how and where schools would evacuate the athletes in the event of an emergency. Florida International, New Orleans and South Alabama are located on coastlines.

Some of the aspects have already been put together in the emergency plan. Each school would have a specific contact person and be given a satellite phone in the event communications are knocked out, Mello said.

The National Hurricane Center, which is located on the campus of Florida International, predicts over the next 10-12 years hurricanes will increase, Mello said.

"We need to have something on paper ready to go in 24 hours or before," Mello said.

Reach Wes Warr
at sports@wkherald.com.

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Icehead (G)
1:15, 4:00, 7:20, 10:00

Pride and Prejudice (G)
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50

Head (PG-13)
1:00, 4:05, 7:25, 10:10

Survivor (G)
1:10, 1:40, 3:55, 4:25, 6:50, 7:15, 9:25, 9:55

Years, Minutes and Days (PG)
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Atom Puss (PG-13)
2:00, 4:25, 7:40, 9:55

Get Rich or Die Tryin' (G)
1:30, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

Sam II (R)
1:30, 4:15, 7:10, 9:25

Just Friends (PG-13)
1:55, 4:15, 6:55, 9:15

Walk The Line (PG-13)
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Callier's Travels

Coming to the Hill via Florida State, the former Seminole is making an immediate impact as a first-year Topper

By Jason Stamm
Herald reporter

Junior guard Benson Callier has shown flashes of potential this season.

Although he hasn't been consistent, he's come through for Western in some crucial moments.

Callier credits a lot of his success to his year out last season. Callier sat out after transferring from Florida State.

In Richmond Saturday, the Toppers again found themselves in close company. Western held an 83-82 lead on Eastern with three minutes to go.

Western (5-1) usually turns to senior guard Anthony Winchester and sophomore guard Courtney Lee in dire situations.

This time, Western found its hero in Callier. In his second start of the season, he had been quiet most of the game, scoring just six points.

But Callier went on a 10-2 run in which he made two three-pointers, two free-throws and followed it with a dunk.

"His points came off hustle plays," coach Darrin Horn said. "It shows he's maturing as a player. He did what we preach in our program, which is to keep attacking and keep playing and to play tough."

Playing most of the game while in foul trouble, Callier was still active defensively. Callier also had three offensive rebounds for the game.

When it came down to the game's final minutes, Callier said he wasn't surprised to find himself in the spotlight.

"Mentally, it's just having the mindset to do whatever it takes to win," Callier said. "I wasn't thinking about myself. I was just taking shots that I like every day in practice."



Nathan Morgan/Herald

Junior guard Benson Callier battles for a basket against Evansville on Tuesday. Western beat the Purple Aces, 84-77. The Florida State transfer is averaging 8.3 points per game in his first season in a Topper uniform.

While Callier had a big night, he said his teammates played a major part in opening up the shots he made.

"The team did good finding open shooters attacking the press and getting offensive

rebounds," he said. "We wanna try to keep moving in that direction to have the offensive rebound night that we did."

Callier's 26-point, four-rebound effort was his highest output since the season opener

on Nov. 18 against Austin Peay. Callier finished with 21 points and six rebounds.

While Callier has had just two big games offensively, Horn said he provides the intangibles that don't show up in the stats.

"He brings a great deal of athleticism and length on both ends of the floor," Horn said. "We're asking him to just be consistent in his defensive effort and in his rebounding. If he does those things, I think you're gonna see some points. The offense will come."

Callier's scrappy play has also impressed his teammates. Sophomore guard Courtney Lee said he's been key to Western's early season success.

"It shows that he's capable of getting the job done and he's reliable in different scenarios," Lee said. "Winning is all about the little things. He comes in, he battles down low and gets rebounds and steals."

Although Callier had a bad night offensively against Evansville Tuesday, he could still be found hustling after loose balls and rebounds.

Callier finished with four points and four rebounds on 1-of-5 shooting.

Horn said Callier can be a consistent performer but may be not so much offensively.

"The kind of break-out game he needs to have is one where he's really giving us a lot defensively," Horn said. "He gives us another weapon, but he's also an athletic guy that has the ability to do a lot of different things, whether it's score, rebound or give us a spark defensively."

Reach Jason Stamm at sports@wherald.com.

FOLD: Free throw shooting suffers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12A

big deal of it," coach Darrin Horn said. "Anthony Winchester is not gonna shoot like that again."

Despite his free throw woes, Winchester finished with 29 points to lead Western, including 19 points in the second half.

"I knew the guys were looking to someone," Winchester said. "I had to bring them all together and tell them to calm down and everything would be alright, and that's what happened."

While the Toppers struggled shooting the ball for the second straight game, they cut down on turnovers.

Western turned the ball over 12 times against Evansville after committing 18 turnovers against Eastern.

"I think we're making improvements," Horn said. "It

shows we're making progress, and I think it's a positive thing that we took care of the basketball a little better tonight."

The Toppers return to action when they play Pacific at 7 p.m. Saturday in Diddle Arena.

Reach Jason Stamm at sports@wherald.com.

Evansville.....36 41 — 77
Western.....34 50 — 84

Hittoppers (5-1)

Winchester 29, Lee 18, Wilson 9, Walker 3, Rogers 3, Campbell 0, Ersson 5, Callier 4, Jordan 2

Purple Aces (2-3)

Anviger 18, Otero 14, Brickland 13, Hinzinger 12, Winter 8, Stalberg 5, Bailey 4, Gurnee 2

Three-point goals

Winchester 4, Lee 2, Rogers, Callier, Campbell, Anviger 3, Otero 3, Hinzinger

Attendance — 5,263

► Volleyball brief

Lady Tops, coach earn All-Region honor

The American Volleyball Coaches Association honored three Lady Toppers yesterday.

Senior setter Caron Blotch and freshman middle hitter Megan Argabright were named to the AVCA all-South Region team, and Crystal Towler was an honorable mention.

Coach Travis Hudson was selected the Tachikara/AVCA South Region coach of the year. He previously received the honor in 2002.

Argabright also became the first Lady Topper to be named all-South Region freshman of the year. Her 417 kills led the Lady Toppers as she averaged 3.79 kills per game.

Argabright's 18 kills in the Lady Toppers' NCAA Tournament first round loss to Louisville Dec. 3,

tied her career-high.

"I'm excited I can leave this season feeling that we really played at as high a level as we could possibly to play," Hudson said Monday.

Blotch was an honorable mention on the 2003 all-region team. She totaled 1,477 assists this season.

Her 4,252 career assists place her third on Western's career assists list. She is the Western all-time leader in assists per game with 13.20.

Towler had 317 kills this season and ranks third in school history with 1,467 career kills.

The South Region is made up of the Sun Belt, Atlantic Sun, Southern and Southeastern conferences.

To read more about the Lady Toppers' 31-3 season, visit www.wherald.com.

— Beth Willberding

There's a lot to look forward to beyond Christmas break



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Jan. 27

•Welcome Back Bash

Feb. 1

•Centennial Lecture featuring Pulitzer Prize winning columnist Clarence Page

Feb. 15

•Carlos Mencia

Mar. 14

•Angela Shelton lecture

Mar. 14

•Healthy days

Apr. 20

•"Heads vs. Feds" lecture featuring Robert Stutman, from the National Drug Enforcement Agency, and Steve Hager, editor-in-chief of "High Times" magazine

Kelly changes photo major to PR

BY JAKE MITCHELL
Herald reporter

When sophomore forward Crystal Kelly came to Western in 2004, she had two things in mind: basketball and photojournalism.

In fact, it was the latter that attracted her to the Hill. The high school All-American rejected athletic scholarship offers from Louisville, Kentucky and Florida because of Western's award-winning photo department.

One year later, however, you won't find Kelly with a camera hanging from her neck.

"I saw how busy all the photo majors were," she said, "... people who didn't have anything else besides photo stuff."

The required workload interfered with her athletic schedule. She decided to switch her major to public relations prior to this semester.

"Practice made me miss

some classes, and with photo class, it's hard to make up," she said.

Jeanne Adams-Smith, Kelly's Intro to Photography teacher last spring, said it is virtually impossible for a student to juggle both photography and athletics.

"What Crystal tried to do was extremely demanding," Adams-Smith said. "It takes a person who really has nothing else to do besides work."

Kelly said she didn't know how much time the major would take out of her basketball schedule.

Her high school photography classes were easy and structured, but majoring in photojournalism required her to be at the mercy of her subjects.

"I found out pretty quick how hard it was," Kelly said. "Coming in, I didn't know."

Louisville sophomore and photography major Alex Eckert said she couldn't imagine trying what Kelly did.

"It's pretty much my life," Eckert said. "I can't have a job or anything. It just wouldn't be possible."

Eckert said she spends at least 20 hours a week on her photo projects alone.

Crystal's mother, Henrietta, didn't find out about her daughter's decision to change majors until after it was made.

"She couldn't find the right balance," Henrietta Kelly said. "She couldn't focus as much time on the photography as she wanted to."

Adams-Smith said that athletes who major in photojournalism are very rare and could only remember one or two who have ever tried it.

Kelly said photography is something she still might pursue after she graduates.

"I never wanted to go to a school for just basketball," she said. "But it was never a choice of putting photography first."

Reach Jake Mitchell
at sports@wkaherald.com



file photo

Sophomore forward Crystal Kelly's decision to attend Western hinged on the strength of the photo program.

Sports briefs

New TV deal to expand Western coverage

Western and Fox College Sports announced a deal Tuesday that has the potential to expand the school's level of basketball exposure.

The world-wide network will air eight Topper and eight Lady Topper basketball games this season. Fox Sports World will also show the Hilltopper Sports Satellite Network broadcast on occasion.

Former All-American Clem Haskins will assist with the coverage of the men's games while his daughter, Clemette Haskins, will continue to appear on broadcasts of the Lady Topper games.

Play-by-play for the Toppers' games will be handled for the second season by George Plaster. Jeff Younglove will call the Lady Toppers' games.

The coverage will also give practical experience to broadcast majors. Local Insight cable does not carry either FCS or FSW in its basic packages, but customers can pay extra for the channels.

Saturday's Hilltopper matchup with Pacific will be the last game carried by FCS before the new year.

—Michael Casagrande and Jason Stamm

DOMINATE: Shouse scores 12

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12A

The 6-foot-5 Shouse scored 10 of her 12 points in the first half while the Arkansas defense limited Kelly to a season-low five points.

"We didn't want Kelly to beat us," Gardner said. "We were sagging off of Shouse. She hasn't been called upon to score."

Arkansas' smaller lineup was forced to shoot from the outside and went 10-for-20 from three-point range. Western shot 2-for-10 from beyond the arc.

Shouse scored in double figures for the second time in three games. She averaged only two points per game in her first four contests.

"It's kind of hard to guard both of us," Shouse said. "It's

hard to double down on (Kelly) and then worry about me."

Freshman guard Dominique Duck scored 12 points and grabbed 10 rebounds for Western. It was her first career double-double, as a Lady Topper.

Arkansas was led by junior guard Kristin Peoples with 20 points. Junior guard Dominique Washington chipped in 16 for the Lady Razorbacks making 5-of-6 three point attempts.

The win marked the first time Western beat the Lady Razorbacks since 1986, having lost three in a row.

"It was a quality win against an SEC opponent," Cowles said. "We're obviously pleased, but there's still things we need to work on."

Western's 6-1 record marks the best start in four-year stint.

Reach Jake Mitchell
at sports@wkaherald.com

Arkansas.....32 41 — 73
Western.....42 45 — 87

Lady Razorbacks (4-4)
Peoples 20, R. Vaughn 16, Washington 16, Jones 12, Butler 8, Hobbs 2, B. Vaughn 2.

Lady Toppers (6-3)
Porter-Talbot 23, Hobb 18, Butler 13, Duck 12, Shouse 12, Marshall 7, Gardner 2, Zaragoza 2.

Three-point goals
Washington 5, R. Vaughn 3, Peoples 2, Butler, Marshall.

Attendance: 1,824

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Notable

• Senior guard Anthony Winchester just 5-of-11 from the free-throw line against Evansville. Winchester had been averaging 72 percent from the stripe. The Hatters shot 51.6 percent overall.

SPORTS

College Heights Herald • Western Kentucky University • Thursday, December 8, 2005 • Page 12A

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Sun Belt

League offices re-open

Hurricane Katrina forces SBC to abandon N.O.

By Wes Watt
Herald reporter

Though much of the area Hurricane Katrina hit is still suffering, life in the Sun Belt Conference goes on.

The storm ripped through the Southern Gulf Coast region, affecting the University of New Orleans and Florida International along with the conference headquarters on Aug. 26.

Although it initially was forced into many changes, a sense of normalcy is now forming as the conference begins to get back on track after examining many obstacles.

"We're proud of our staff," Sun Belt Commissioner Wayne Waters said. "We've been able to help out as much as possible, and they were able to work through it."

Waters and about half of the staff moved back into the Pan American Life building in New Orleans in mid-October. The conference temporarily moved its offices to the building.

Waters said the building is in good shape, with the exception of some power problems. Though work in the building has resumed, the reality of the hurricane still exists.

There is a constant concern of parking in the same place, using the same chair, and so on, getting close to the normalcy, Waters said. "We want to go to work, and we want to get back to the way we were."

The conference headquarters was not the only operation that had to move.

The University of New Orleans had its athletic department moved to a new location. The school was forced to shut down and many of the athletes were moved to different schools around the country to start their fall semester.

However, only the women's volleyball team had its season canceled by one of the chaos.

The men's and women's basketball team moved to the University of Louisiana-Lafayette. The school is planned to return to the spring semester, but the women's team scheduled to play back in New Orleans at the Human Performance Center in Lafayette.

The Pro-Ject basketball team was relocated to New Mexico and the women's swim team was split up between Agnes Scott College and Emory College.

The men's golf team is in Louisiana State University at Shreveport, while the women's golf team is at Nicholls State.

The track and field team, along with several members of the women's tennis team went to LSU. Baton Rouge.

By JAKE MITCHELL
Herald reporter

Arkansas coach Steve Gardner said the team would not match their team in the post.

Forethought, however, couldn't keep her Lady Razorbacks from getting skunked.

The Lady Toppers outscored Arkansas 50-16 in the paint Tuesday night in hand.

The Lady Razorbacks are 87-73 loss in the BB&T Classic in Diddle Arena.

"We're tiny," Gardner said. "We're small. That's something we know coming in and we'll have to deal with the rest of the year."

Sophomore forward Crystal Kelly scored 16 points and junior center Sarah Shouse added 12 for Western's dominant inside game.

The Lady Toppers (6-1) out-

rebounded Arkansas 47-24, including 19-8 on the offensive end.

Arkansas scored the first four points of the game before Western responded with a 10-0 run.

The Lady Razorbacks (4-4) came back to take a 20-18 lead midway through the first half, but were outscored 24-12 the rest of the half.

"The Lady Toppers never trailed again."

"It wasn't a very pretty win," senior guard Tiffany Porter-Talbert said. "We didn't come out with a lot of intensity, but a win is a win is a win, so we're happy."

Porter-Talbert led all players with 23 points and 12 rebounds and was one of three Lady Toppers with double-doubles.

Senior guard Anthony Winchester attempted a layup against Evansville's junior guard Art Stalberg and junior forward Craig Phifer. Western beat the Purple Aces 84-77 Tuesday night in Diddle Arena.

By JASON STAMM
Herald reporter

Western 84 Evansville 77

Tops fold Purple Aces



Senior guard Anthony Winchester attempts a layup against Evansville's junior guard Art Stalberg and junior forward Craig Phifer. Western beat the Purple Aces 84-77 Tuesday night in Diddle Arena.

Win was third straight after Georgia loss Nov. 26

By JASON STAMM
Herald reporter

Coming off a 97-89 road win over rival Eastern on Saturday, Western hoped to avoid a letdown against Evansville.

Although the Toppers got off to an uncharacteristically slow start, it didn't stop Western from pulling out a 84-77 win in the BB&T Classic Tuesday.

Evansville (2-3) opened the game by taking a 17-7 lead while senior forward Elgrace Wilborn spent 14 minutes of the first half on the bench with two fouls.

"They still played well without me," Wilborn said. "We just tried to raise our defensive intensity because they were coming out and shooting at will. We had to challenge their shots."

The Toppers (5-1) were cold from the field from the start of the game, shooting just 20 percent in the first 12 minutes of the first half.

The Purple Aces didn't fare much better, shooting just 37.9 percent from the field in the first half.

"It wasn't just the defense that forced bad shots," Evansville coach Steve Merfeld said. "Their style rushes you and really gets you out of rhythm."

The Toppers regained their stroke in the second half, coming out of halftime on a 20-10 run to take an eight-point lead at 54-46 with 12:30 left.

Western kept Evansville in the game with its lapses at the free-throw line. The Toppers made just 23-of-41 free throws.

Evansville cut the lead to three at 71-68 with 2:33 left. Western maintained the lead but missed 9-of-16 free throws in the final 1:20 keeping the game close.

Senior guard Anthony Winchester, a 72 percent free-throw shooter this season, was just 5-of-17.

"The worst thing we can do is make a

SEE FIELD ON PAGE 12B

Inside game dominates Lady Razorbacks

By JAKE MITCHELL
Herald reporter

Arkansas coach Steve Gardner said the team would not match their team in the post.

Forethought, however, couldn't keep her Lady Razorbacks from getting skunked.

The Lady Toppers outscored Arkansas 50-16 in the paint Tuesday night in hand.

The Lady Razorbacks are 87-73 loss in the BB&T Classic in Diddle Arena.

"We're tiny," Gardner said. "We're small. That's something we know coming in and we'll have to deal with the rest of the year."

Sophomore forward Crystal Kelly scored 16 points and junior center Sarah Shouse added 12 for Western's dominant inside game.

The Lady Toppers (6-1) out-

rebounded Arkansas 47-24, including 19-8 on the offensive end.

Arkansas scored the first four points of the game before Western responded with a 10-0 run.

The Lady Razorbacks (4-4) came back to take a 20-18 lead midway through the first half, but were outscored 24-12 the rest of the half.

"The Lady Toppers never trailed again."

"It wasn't a very pretty win," senior guard Tiffany Porter-Talbert said. "We didn't come out with a lot of intensity, but a win is a win is a win, so we're happy."

Porter-Talbert led all players with 23 points and 12 rebounds and was one of three Lady Toppers with double-doubles.

Senior guard Anthony Winchester attempted a layup against Evansville's junior guard Art Stalberg and junior forward Craig Phifer. Western beat the Purple Aces 84-77 Tuesday night in Diddle Arena.

By JASON STAMM
Herald reporter



Senior guard Tiffany Porter-Talbert drives through the Arkansas defense Tuesday night in Diddle Arena. The Lady Toppers beat the Lady Razorbacks 87-73 in the BB&T Classic for their 50th win in seven games this season.

Nathan Weber/Herald



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Tinnitus, a ringing in the ears, is usually the first sign of hearing loss. The condition can make it hard to concentrate or work.

— Dr. Michael Boggess • College Heights Herald • Western Kentucky University • Thursday, December 8, 2005 • Page 1B

diversions

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TOO LOUD?

Loud music could damage hearing, but many students chose not to listen to warnings

By JOEY LESLIE
HERALD REPORTER

The need for noise may eventually end in silence for avid music listeners.

A recent study done by Robert Novak, director of clinical education in audiology at Purdue University, shows that hearing loss is on the increase in college-age students, and MP3

players may be partly to blame.

But Western students seem unconcerned with the study's findings as they continue to walk across campus with the soundtrack of their life booming in their ears.

Dr. Hugh Sims, a physician at Sims and Boggess Eye, Nose and Throat in Bowling Green, said it's crucial that people turn down the volume and limit the amount of time they listen to music. He recommends only wearing headphones for an hour a day.

"I have an iPod, and I think it's the greatest thing," he said. "But I limit the amount of time I use it."

Sims said if students are listening to music while studying, walking to class and riding in their cars, they can easily accumulate as many as four hours of listening time each day.

Sims said 16 percent of his patients ages 6 to 19 have noise-induced hearing loss, and personal media players are the biggest contributor to hearing loss in that age group.

Headphones project music at a level of 100 decibels when at a standard, mid-range volume level. That level of noise is high enough to cause permanent damage after 15 minutes a day, according to dangerousdecibels.org, a public health Web site dedicated to the prevention of noise-induced hearing loss.

Noise-induced hearing loss occurs when damage is done to hair cells in the cochlea Boggess said. The damage is irreversible because those cells cannot regenerate.

Tinnitus, a ringing in the ears, is usually the first sign of hearing loss, said Dr. Michael Boggess, a physician at Sims and Boggess Eye, Nose and Throat in Bowling Green. Tinnitus can make it difficult to concentrate or work.

"It can be as big a problem as hearing loss, and there is no treatment for it," Boggess said.

Boggess said he hasn't seen an increase in complaints from college-age students, but expects widespread occurrences of hearing loss to be more prevalent in 10 to 20 years when the age group reaches 30.

Boggess said people can protect their hearing now by turning down the volume of their personal music players and avoiding exposure to noise by wearing earplugs, especially when doing lawn work and shooting firearms.

Sounds lower than 75 decibels are at a safer level and are unlikely to cause hearing loss even after long-term exposure, according to the Web site.

Some students are satisfied with enjoying their music now and worrying about possible hearing problems later.

SEE HEARING PAGE 2B

Mom and son to graduate together

By TAVIA GREEN
Herald reporter

As Lucas Devore got on the yellow school bus for his first day of kindergarten at Warren Elementary in Bowling Green, his mother Susan Devore cried.

"It was pretty tough," she said, thinking back to that day in 1986.

When Lucas Devore walked across Diddle Arena to receive his high school diploma from Warren Central High in Bowling Green, his mother's heart swelled with pride.

On Dec. 17, when Lucas Devore walks across the stage at Diddle Arena to receive his degree, his mother will not be watching from the audience.

"She will be waiting in her own black cap and gown to shake President Randall's hand and receive the diploma she's desired since 1976."

"I think I'll be exciting," Susan Devore said. "I wish we could sit together."

Susan and Lucas Devore have worked hard in the past few years to get their diplomas.

Susan Devore started at Western after high school in the 70s. When she became pregnant, she dropped out of school and worked to support her family.

"In the back of my mind, I always wanted to go back, but I was working, and

we needed the money," Susan Devore said.

After Lucas Devore enrolled in college, his mother lost her job and knew she had to go back to college to find another job. It was an opportunity for her to finish what she had started.

"Marj, I admire her," her neighbor Patti McCormack said. "Who wouldn't? Cause she's 45 years old and having to go back and compete with the younger crowd in the job market."

McCormack and the Devore family have been neighbors and friends for five years. McCormack plans to throw the duo a graduation party.

Susan Devore has majored in Computer Information Systems since she started back and said it was really neat seeing the development of the computer.

"I came up when computers were coming up," she said. "It's been wild!"

Susan Devore said that it's challenging being a nontraditional student but said she'd encourage anyone to go back.

Lucas Devore will graduate with a bachelor of fine arts with a major in math and a minor in physics.

When he graduated from high school in 1999 as seventh in his class and came to Western on a scholarship, he knew his mom was proud.

He said he's just as proud of her for not giving up and pursuing a goal after an almost 30-year hiatus.

"I was excited for the opportunity for her to come back," Lucas Devore said.

"I'm proud that she came and did the work."

Since they live in the same house, they see each other daily. At school, it was rare when they didn't have some of the same classes.

"We saw each other on campus one day and he hollered out, 'Hi Mom!' ..."

— Susan Devore

Susan Devore said she looks forward to working in the computer field. Lucas hopes to find work in an insurance company. Like Lucas' first day of school and his high school graduation, she said she knows she will feel proud on their graduation day.

And for the first time, Lucas Devore can equally share the feeling.

Reach Tavia Green at features@wkuherald.com.

Longer break lets many international students visit home

More students expected to travel

By LEAH M. CAUDLE
Herald reporter

This winter break brings holiday cheer and home visits to all, including students from different countries.

Robin Borczon, director of international services, said the international center has an overwhelming number of international students waiting to go home for the five-week break.

Borczon said more international students seem eager to go home this year. Last year's statistics show between 100 and 200 students traveled out of the country.

Borczon said the international center is expecting more than 300 students to travel home to different countries this year.

Borczon said it's more cost-effective for students to travel home for longer periods of time than in past years, when breaks lasted only four weeks.

Cristina Prado, a sophomore from Brazil, said she would have gone home even if the break lasted one week.

Prado said the holiday season is very important to her family, and she is excited about seeing her family and friends.

Pavani Singalreddy, a graduate student from Andhra Pradesh, India, said it has been a year and a half since she has seen her parents. She said it's easier to travel home because of the length of the break.

Singalreddy said she misses her family, her mother's food and everything about India.

Singalreddy said it's going to be hard to come back to America after spending so much time at home.

Swetha Pannala, a graduate student from Andhra Pradesh, India, will be spending her Christmas in America.

Pannala, who graduates in December, said there would be complications with her visa if she went home after graduation.

She said she is looking forward to getting a work visa so she can go home in the future.

Borczon said the international center will be open to students who stay on-campus during the break. She said activities will be planned for students if an interest is shown.

Reach Leah M. Caudle at news@wkuherald.com.

Finals week stress, anxiety can harm students

By A. LAYNE STACKHOUSE
Herald reporter

Frankfort sophomore Molly McKee said the most stressful part of every semester is her exams. This semester, all of her exams are on the same day, which only adds to the pressure.

"The hardest part is knowing most of them are cumulative, and you have to know everything from the entire semester," McKee said.

Instead of studying hard for her exams, she gets so stressed out that she procrastinates and doesn't study.

"It isn't a very good way to prepare, and then it leads to even more stress," McKee said.

However, as students prepare for exams this week and next, there are ways to relieve stress and perform better.

Betsy Pierce, staff psychologist for the Counseling Services Center, defines stress as something that causes anxiety and puts extra demand on people.

Pierce said while not all stress is bad, it can have negative effects on sleeping, eating and academic performance for students. She also said that over a long enough period of time, stress can weaken the immune system and make people more vulnerable to sickness.

"It's important that students don't feel overwhelmed," Pierce said. "You want to be able to manage stress so that it doesn't

get in the way of doing your absolute best."

Students sometimes deal with stressful situations like exams by using over-the-counter drugs or by drinking too much coffee to stay awake longer, which makes it harder for students to focus on the actual test, Pierce said.

"At some point, you will either crash, get dependent on something or get hyped up to the point it gets in the way of concentration," she said.

Students also add to the stress when they cram the night before a big test, Pierce said.

"Pulling the all-nighter cram session

SEE STRESS PAGE 2B

Academics

Professors prepare for finals week

BY ANGELIKA MASERO
Herald reporter

As students hurriedly study for finals week, most professors are working just as hard behind the scenes, grading papers and getting ready for winter break.

The week before finals, professors are swamped with work from students. English Professor Mary Ellen Miller said: They devote much of their time grading homework, term papers and projects. Professors also try to have everything graded before their final class so they can return work to students.

"It's hectic and exciting," Miller said. "Good students are worried about their finals, and teachers are running around trying to get papers graded and turned back on time."

Associate History Professor Kathryn Abbott has two tasks to complete the week before finals: grading and preparing for next semester.

Abbott won't be in Bowling Green during winter break, so she spends a lot of time trying to finish grading her papers and getting her syllabus ready for next semester.

Professors also try to cover as much material as possible before finals.

"I wasn't able to cover as much material as I would like to have," Abbott said.

Some classes that involve group discussions can also set back the syllabus.

"Classes that are more participatory sometimes get a little behind," Associate Economics

Professor Cathy Carey said. "That can make the last week a little more stressful than usual."

On top of that, professors have to create finals for their students.

Carey said she has eight exams to create: two versions per class and several extras for students who have a valid excuse to miss the scheduled day of finals.

Some teachers want to have all assignments unrelated to the final exam graded and recorded, so when it comes time to grade the final, it's the only thing they will have to do. This will also speed up calculating grades.

"I like to have all the exams made, all semester assignments graded and recorded and

all my Excel grade spreadsheets programmed so that all I have to do is enter a final grade, and it tells me the students' averages," Carey said.

Professors also have to grade many students' finals soon after the semester ends.

Abbott has more than 100 students in three different classes. She has to grade 100 finals and have all grades turned in to the Registrar's office by noon on Dec. 20, she said.

Carey said her upper-level and graduate classes will take longer to grade because their final is in the form of projects and papers.

However, professors who have tests early in the week are in better shape than those who don't, Miller said.

Reach Angelika Masero
at features@wkuherald.com.

STRESS: Take time to unwind, experts say

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

doesn't work, not simply because you've had no sleep, but our minds are not geared for a marathon study session," she said.

One good way to reduce stress is to take a short break and relax sometimes, she said.

Learning Center Coordinator Aubrey Videtto said forming a plan for studying is important to relieving stress as well.

By finding good ways to study and a schedule to do it in, students may feel less apprehensive about exams and more in control, she said.

She also stressed the importance of taking time out to relax while working or studying.

"At some point, people suffer when they do not take some time to rejuvenate," she said.

Videtto also said that by try-

ing to reduce stress before the exams, students will feel better about their performances and their final grades afterwards.

"You've only got so much mental and physical energy," Videtto said. "If you exhaust too much of this with negative stress, ultimately you're not going to achieve your academic and personal goals."

While some students procrastinate or don't study at all, others stress out, even when they do study.

Morgantown sophomore Felicia Taylor said one reason exam-taking is so stressful is because it takes place during the last week of school and everyone is ready to go home.

To relieve her stress, Taylor takes breaks between studying and listens to country music.

Reach A. Layne Stackhouse
at features@wkuherald.com.

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Column

One-time 'square' says thanks to circle of fans



JUST SAYIN'
Amber North

me more friends.

I was a square the first five semesters of my collegiate life. And I'm a square for using the word "square," but that's beside the point.

It was like a dream come true getting this column last semester.

I was like that kid in the Coke commercial with Mean Joe Gynn.

I kept begging the Herald to give me the column, hoping they'd see the light.

I was rejected on my first try. I was sad. I didn't know what to do. Then the following semester, my editor says, "Hey, dork — you can have the column."

Gleefully, I say, "Thank you, editor!" Because, clearly, we don't call each other by our actual names around here.

And here it was. I couldn't believe that I would be able to write stuff and be funny about it.

The more I wrote, the more natural it was to me. People would come up to me and tell me how much they enjoyed the column, and I thanked them and asked them to marry me.

Then it got awkward.

My popularity was rising big time. I got several offers from different universities to go on a college tour talking about the power of success and how you can go from a nobody to somebody.

Just last week I received a phone call from [Tom Cruise to read a poem for his and Katie Holmes' wedding. It was scary, actually, because one minute he was laughing with me, then the next he was calling me a jerk. I may have to renege on the offer, *Tummy Boy*.

But even after all of this success, I couldn't have done it without you, and by "you," I mean the fans.

I've gotten nothing but great feedback from you all. My favorite is when Zach Galifianakis wrote me back in February.

I wrote a column last semester confessing my love for him.

A month later, he writes me back, saying he appreciated what I said to him, but he couldn't marry me because he was already engaged to Dakota Fanning.

Ha. I thought he was joking until

he asked me to be in the wedding. I was crushed.

What I loved most about this column is being able to say whatever was on my mind, whether it'd be about life, pop culture, cinema, music or anything.

You all accepted me when I raved about the glory of watching basketball. You accepted me for my non-sequitur humor. Most importantly, you accepted... me.

Before I reach the dead end of this road, I must say that this year was a tough year to choose my Top 5 albums of 2005. However, I can say that the Album of the Year is "Wolf Parade's" "Apologies to the Queen Mary."

It was very important for me to say that.

Take it easy, good people.

Good Fudding!

Amber North is the Herald assistant sports editor and humor columnist. You can reach her at ambnorth@hotmail.com.

EARS: Students still listening

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

Hartford senior Jae Renfrow walked through the Mass Media and Technology Hall with headphones hanging around his neck on Nov. 29. He said he uses them to listen to music for about an hour a day at full volume while in the computer lab or studying. He said he probably won't change his listening habits.

"I figure it's going to be different for different people," Renfrow said. "There's always a possibility nothing will happen."

Several students across campus shared Renfrow's opinion. Knoxville sophomore Luke Gilbert and Shepherdsville senior Kelli Ray both said they listen to their MP3 players at or near full volume for at least an hour a day and don't plan on changing their listening habits.


"I don't think it's significantly damaged my hearing after a year," Gilbert said. "If I actually start to notice it, then it'll be a problem."

Reach Joey Leslie at news@wkuherald.com.


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SGA would like to wish everyone good luck on all of their finals!

The Library will be staying open until 2 a.m. every night of finals week.

**On Sunday, Monday, and Wednesday night
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**Good luck to everyone and Happy Holidays!
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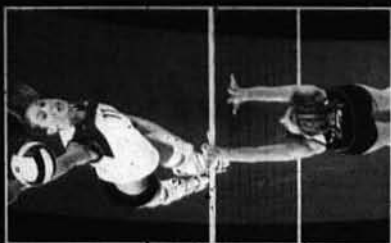
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Herald Photo Staff Fall 2005.



Freshman middle hitter Megan Agrabright slams the ball against Belmont on Oct. 25. Agrabright had 16 kills in Western's 3-0 sweep of the visiting Bruins. Photo by Nathan Morgan/Herald



Players waited and watched for the result of a field goal with three seconds left to win the game in the "Battle of the Bluegrass" against Eastern Kentucky University at Smith Stadium on Sept. 10. The field goal went through and Western won 23-21. Photo by Jesse Osbourne/Herald (BELOW LEFT) Placing third in Poland's national championship as a junior in high school sets the stage for future competitions, freshman freestyle swimmer Lukasz Herbst of Warsaw. Poland continued in his success when he came in first in the 100-yard freestyle at competition Oct. 15. Photo by Nathan Morgan (BELOW RIGHT) "It's pretty fun," Vietnam sophomore Hersh Thet said about rappelling from the parking structure on Oct. 15. Learning to rapel and belay is part of the Military Mountaineering and Leadership 101 course. Photo by Nathan Morgan



A hopeful and eager group of about 30 people look on as camera crews record Western Halloween parties that might be used in an upcoming "Girls Gone Wild" video. Photo by Jim Winn

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

What's your story?

Freshman learns from friend

By TAVIS GREEN
Herald reporter

Last spring, Jami Mann and 30 others in the Calhoun community jumped into an ice cold lake.

Each year, people in the Calhoun community commemorate Jacob "Jake" Whitt by jumping into Lake Jake. Whitt, one of Mann's best friends, died from leukemia when they were in high school.

When the splashes die down and the laughter subsides, everyone who participated remembers a dedicated 14-year-old boy who was a role model, intelligent and full of life.

Mann, an 18-year-old freshman, always remembers the best friend who taught her the value of life.

Mann said she had a difficult time dealing with Whitt's death. It was the first time she had lost a close friend.

"It was the first time I felt I wasn't invincible," Mann said.

She said she learned to appreciate life more often.

"Life is not a to-do list," Mann said.

Mann said she will remember that while celebrating her 19th birthday on Friday.

But Mann said she's in no rush to grow up and face the real world.

Mann, an undecided major, said she loves college.

"I've always had a huge spot in my life for education," she said, smiling.

She is still confused as to what her major is going to be.

"Making a decision is so hard," Mann said. "I like so many things, and I've always had a huge spot in my life for education."

She is looking into going to pharmacy school or doing something with politics or finance.

While she is in school, Mann said she wants to talk to and befriend so many people as possible. One way she does this is through Facebook, an online networking community.

"I have to talk to people," she said.

Mann said it's fun keeping in touch with friends he met in summer camp and in high school.

Her friends seem to appreciate her outgoing personality and happy disposition.

"She is a big goofball like me, can always laugh at herself and she always has a helping hand and an ear when you need her to listen," Nightville, sophomore Lindsey Lundberg said.

Paducah freshman Molly Bray felt the same.

"Jami is honestly the sweetest person I have ever met," Bray said.

"She is outgoing, kind and gentle. I couldn't ask for a better friend since I've been here."

Mann said she's adjusting to the independence of college and managing her time.



JAMI MANN

One thing she had to adjust to is walking up and down Western's steep hill. Although she likes to exercise and run, Mann said tackling Western's hill is not a fun task when it's pouring rain.

But Mann knows she will be climbing the Hill for the next four years.

In the future she said she wants to be in a position where she finds a career she loves and has more opportunities to advance.

Reach Tavis Green
at features@wkhherald.com

News Brief

Student artwork on sale for charity

The WKU Clay Club is sponsoring a pottery sale of ceramics students' artwork to benefit a charity of the students' choice. The sale will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today and tomorrow on the second floor balcony of Java City in the Helm Library.

Tom Bartel, assistant art professor, has worked on the sale each semester since he arrived at Western, but this is the first time part of the proceeds will be going to charity.

"We're doing something different," Bartel said. "I decided to have my students do this so they were more aware of what's happening in the community in which they live."

Twenty percent of the sale's revenue will go to charities sponsored by each class. The rest of the revenue is divided evenly between the ceramics students and the Clay Club.

Bartel's beginners' ceramics class will donate to the Make A Wish Foundation, while his beginners' pottery, intermediate and advanced ceramics classes will donate to the Dream Factory.

Both organizations specialize in helping children with life-altering and life-threatening illnesses.

Bartel said all pottery at the sale will be suitable for dining and safe for microwaves and dishwashers.

—William Ploch

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Community

Festival shows different cultures' traditions

By ABBEY SAULL
Herald reporter

The lights of the trees glistened through the windows of houses throughout the neighborhoods of Bowling Green. Bright colors in shades of red, green and blue danced around, jumping from light to light, symbolizing arrival of the holiday season.

For many, tree decorating is a staple of the Christmas season. But many cultures around the world showcase their holidays in different ways.

"The Festival of Trees has been an annual tradition in Bowling Green for the last three years.

The festival is being held at the Holiday Inn Convention Center from now until the end of December so guests can stop by and see the displays, said John Darr, director of marketing and public relations for the United Way.

The festival is also a fundraiser for the United Way, Darr said. Businesses around Bowling Green such as Citizens First Bank and Plaza Hot sponsor a tree for \$500 and decorate it as creatively as possible, Darr said.

"As a part of the festival, Western International Studies students participate in the World Celebration," said Robin Borczon, director of International Services.

International students and members of the community are encouraged to include items that reflect their culture's holiday traditions.

Sadia De Leon, a senior from Panama, said that instead of decorating a tree, the Latin American Student Association did something a little different.

"We decorated a nativity scene," De Leon said. "It is a more traditional Christmas centerpiece in Latin America."

The Latin American nativity scene, which took them a couple of hours to build, includes figures of Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus and the three kings, De Leon said.

"The festival serves a great function," De Leon said. "It collects funds for the United Way and exposes the people of Bowling Green to diversity through display of how Christmas and other end of the year celebrations take place around the world."

Western had many participants in the celebration, Darr said. Students from the Japanese, Korean and Asian Indian organizations are just a few that got involved.

"This year we had a new edition with a display from South Korea," Darr said. "Bowling Green and all the students were eager to participate."

"The multicultural displays are incredible," Darr said. "The United Way is just thankful that all the businesses and cultures can come together and create a great holiday atmosphere for the Bowling Green community."

Reach Abbey Saull
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Faculty

Professors publishes feminism books

By HAWKINS TEAGUE
Herald reporter

Kentucky isn't known for its feminists, but several Western faculty are trying to change peoples' minds through writing.

"I to I: Life Writing by Kentucky Feminists," a collection of memoirs and essays published in November 2004, is the third book in the Kentucky Feminist Writers series. All three books were edited by associate English professor Jane Olmsted, director of the Women's Studies Program, and English professor Elizabeth Oakes.

The first book, "Writing Who We Are: Poems by Kentucky Feminists," was published in 1999. It sold enough copies to warrant a second printing and inspired Olmsted and Oakes to create a sequel.

The second book, "Telling Stories: Fiction by Kentucky Feminists," was published in 1999. It sold enough copies to warrant a second printing and inspired Olmsted and Oakes to put together a book of memoirs and essays.

With poetry and fiction behind them, Olmsted and Oakes decided to put together a book of memoirs and essays.

"Although the book was published last year, a favorable review by Wade Hall appeared in The Courier-Journal on Nov. 13. In it, he said the book 'deserves to be touted on 'Oprah' and a dozen morning shows.'"

"That's our next goal," Olmsted said. "To get on 'Oprah.'"

Olmsted said she was proud of the high quality of writing in the book and the diversity of the writers. She said the women featured in the book are different in terms of age, race and level of education, but had a few things in common: notably, a commitment to social justice.

Mary Ellen Miller, an English professor, is one of the contributors. Her essay, "SACS and the Senior Citizen, or Have You Retired Yet?" is about why she still loves to teach. She said her students keep her going year after year.

"I like young people," she said. "I like their youthful attitude. Even nontraditional students tend to have a more youthful attitude than most."



Jane Olmsted

Trish Jagers, office associate for the Women's Studies Program, did the layout for the book and helped with some of the final editing.

Jagers said anyone who reads the book is likely to find a piece to which they can relate, although readers not from Kentucky or Tennessee might miss some of the nuances.

One strength of the book is how it puts some stereotypes to rest, Jagers said.

She said people outside Kentucky tend to think of Kentucky women as uneducated and complacent, and "I to I" dispels those myths. Some of the writers have doctorates.

Jagers also said "life writing" is a perfect term to include in the title because of the personal nature of the book.

"Sometimes you feel that you're reading their private thoughts," she said. "Some of these things I'm not sure I'd want to tell people about."

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